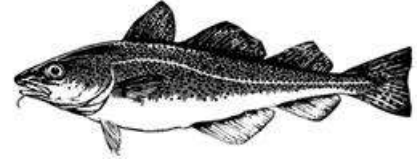


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Date Issued: 2/07/13

**2013 Kodiak Area State-Waters Pacific Cod Season Opening for Pot Gear  
Emergency Order 4-GF-02-13**

National Marine Fisheries Service announced closure of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) pot gear sector A-season effective at NOON on February 10, 2013. Therefore, the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod pot gear season will open at NOON on February 17, 2013. The 2013 state-waters season pot gear guideline harvest level allocation is 6.79 million pounds. Vessels greater than 58 feet overall length are limited to 25% of the total guideline harvest level or 3.39 million pounds of Pacific cod.

Vessel operators must obtain a miscellaneous finfish interim-use permit card for pot gear from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and an exclusive state-waters vessel registration from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) prior to participating in the state-waters season. Pot vessels are restricted to operating no more than 60 pots and buoy tags are required for all pot gear. Registration and buoy tags are available at the ADF&G office in Kodiak.

Vessels operators participating in the parallel Pacific cod fishery may store open and unbaited cod pots at any depth during the seven days between the closure of the CGOA parallel season and the start of the Kodiak Area state-waters season. Once the state-waters season opens, only 60 pots with buoy tags attached may be fished. Untagged pots in excess of the 60 pot limit may be stored in waters less than 25 fathoms in depth or be onboard the vessel for up to seven days after the state-waters season opening. After seven days, only 60 tagged pots may be in the water or onboard a vessel participating in the state-waters fishery.

The Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod jig gear season will remain closed until further notice. For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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